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1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 48

2 WHEREAS, The date of February 7, 2013, marks the 12th
3 annual commemoration and observance of National
4 African-American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day; and

5 WHEREAS, This observance is a nationwide effort to mobilize
6 African-American communities to get educated, get tested, get
7 involved, and get treated for HIV/AIDS, as it continues to
8 devastate African-American communities; and

9 WHEREAS, National African-American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
10 is directed, planned, and strategically implemented by
11 HIV/AIDS organizations to mobilize community-based
12 organizations and stakeholders involved in HIV/AIDS
13 prevention, care, and treatment; and

14 WHEREAS, Nearly 35,000 residents of Illinois are living
15 with HIV; 51% of people diagnosed with HIV are
16 African-American; and

17 WHEREAS, African-American gay men under the age of 30 in
18 Chicago have an infection rate 3 times greater than their white
19 counterparts; and

20 WHEREAS, Over two-thirds of women diagnosed with HIV in the

1 United States are African-American; and

2 WHEREAS, Among African-Americans ages 25-44, HIV was the
3 4th leading cause of death for men and 3rd leading cause of
4 death for women, higher than any other racial group; and

5 WHEREAS, Numerous organizations, faith-based institutions,
6 public health entities, and impacted citizens are hosting
7 community events to recognize this day and its importance to
8 African-Americans and all concerned citizens; and

9 WHEREAS, It is fitting that we join with these local,
10 national, and international groups to express our strong
11 support for National African-American HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
12 and the initiatives to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS in
13 African-American communities and provide access to and
14 utilization of HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, and support
15 services to those affected by HIV/AIDS; therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL
17 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we designate the date
18 of February 7, 2013, as National African-American HIV/AIDS
19 Awareness Day in the State of Illinois and encourage the
20 citizens of this State to strongly support this day and
21 participate in events planned to commemorate the occasion.